

**REMARKS**

The Office Action mailed October 1, 2004 has been carefully reviewed and the foregoing amendment has been made in consequence thereof.

Claims 1, 3, 6, 7, 32, 33, and 35 are now pending in this application. Claims 1, 32, 33, and 35 stand rejected. Claims 2, 3, 6, 7, and 34 are objected to. Claims 2, 4, 5, 8-31, and 34 have been canceled. Claim 6 is newly independent. No additional fee is due for newly independent Claim 6.

The rejection of Claims 1, 32, 33, and 35 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Poling (U.S. Patent No. 4,351,105) is respectfully traversed.

Claim 2 was indicated as objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 2 has been canceled and Claim 1 has been amended to include the recitations from Claim 2. Accordingly, Claim 1 is submitted to be patentable over Poling.

Claim 34 was indicated as objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 34 has been canceled and Claim 32 has been amended to include the recitations from Claim 34. Accordingly, Claim 32 is submitted to be patentable over Poling.

Claims 33 and 35 depend from independent Claim 32. When the recitations of Claims 33 and 35 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 32, Applicants submit that dependent Claims 33 and 35 likewise are patentable over Poling.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully request that the 35 U.S.C. § 102 rejection of Claims 1, 32, 33, and 35 be withdrawn.

The objection to Claims 2, 3, 6, 7, and 34 is respectfully traversed.

Claims 2, 3, and 7 were indicated as objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 2 has been canceled and

Claim 1 has been amended to include the recitations from Claim 2. Accordingly, Claim 1 is submitted to be in condition for allowance.

Claims 3 and 7 depend from independent Claim 1. When the recitations of Claims 3 and 7 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 1, Applicants submit that dependent Claims 3 and 7 are likewise in condition for allowance.

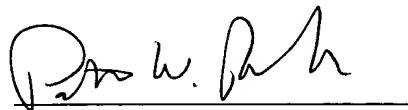
Claim 6 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but was indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claim 6 has been rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, Claim 6 is submitted to be in condition for allowance.

Claim 34 was indicated as objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 34 has been canceled and Claim 32 has been amended to include the recitations from Claim 34. Accordingly, Claim 32 is submitted to be in condition for allowance.

For the reasons set forth above, Applicants request that the objection to Claims 2, 3, 6, 7, and 34 be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all the claims now active in this application are believed to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,



Patrick W. Rasche  
Registration No.: 37,916  
ARMSTRONG TEASDALE LLP  
One Metropolitan Square, Suite 2600  
St. Louis, Missouri 63102-2740  
(314) 621-5070